

# Anaconda Times

*Proudly Serving LSA Anaconda*

Volume 1, Issue 9

March 29, 2004

## Congress comes to town

Story by Spc. James Truitt  
13th COSCOM Public Affairs

Congressional Representatives from Arizona, California, Michigan, Mississippi, Texas, and Washington arrived on LSA Anaconda to meet with senior officials and service members, March 21.

"I want you to know that the people of Texas are deeply grateful for what you are doing," said Congressman Chet Edwards from Texas. "But there are no words of gratitude that can express my deep appreciation to you, for your sacrifice, and service to your country."

Edwards has served more than 12 years in Congress and was elected to his seventh term as the U.S. Representative for the 11th Congressional District of Texas, last year. His Central Texas District includes Ft. Hood, the largest Army post in the United States and home to Third Corps. He is also co-chairman of the bipartisan House Army Caucus.

"It's good to know they care enough to come out here and talk to us about our



Photos by Spc. James Truitt  
**Representative Darrell Issa, R-Calif., poses for a picture with Californian service members at the congressional dinner at LSA Anaconda, March 21.**

issues," said Pfc. Lakaycha Hood, HHC, Special Troops Battalion, 13th Corps Support Command.

"I just want to say thanks," said Edwards. "When I think about Americans having to leave their loved ones includ-

ing their children for a year to protect our country, to make this a safer world, and to protect my family; it's just the most humbling feeling."

The other representatives present were John D. "JD" Hayworth, R-Ariz., author of the Hayworth Education Land Grant Act; Darrell Issa, R-Calif., who served in the Army as a bomb disposal technician, tank platoon commander, and a computer specialist; Joe Knollenberg, R-Mich., best known for his strong record of constituent service and focus on improving the quality of life in Southeast Michigan; Rodger Wicker R-Miss, member of three Appropriations subcommittees, including Foreign Operations; and Richard "Doc" Hastings, R-Wash., founder and Chairman of the House Nuclear Clean-Up Caucus.

Their visit was notice to service members that they had not been forgotten.

"It's good to know that they care enough to come out here, meet the people, and see what we're doing," said Chief Warrant Officer Don Clayton, 185th Aviation Group.



**Representative Chet Edwards, D-Tex., speaking to soldiers and airmen during the congressional dinner at LSA Anaconda, March 21.**

## *New triage considered new triumph*

Story by Spc. Blanka Stratford  
13th COSCOM Public Affairs

Seven different Army and Air Force units joined forces to perform a fast-paced and well-organized mission in the village of Bakhar, Iraq, March 13.

Bakhar, known as 'Military Village,' is approximately two kilometers from LSA Anaconda and houses more than 1,000 former members of the Iraqi Air Force.

The collaborated mission was aimed at providing dental and medical service for Iraqi citizens inhabiting the village and was centered on the arrangement of a triage.

A triage is a system of establishing the order of priority in which acts of medical assistance are to be carried out.

"The triage was actually a dry run," said Lt. Col. Felipe Ibarra, senior staff officer for the 350th Civil Affairs, a Reserve unit from Bay Area, Calif., attached to 13th COSCOM Civil Affairs. "It was a two-hour mission that served as an experiment to discover if the course of action will be adequate for future operations."

Ibarra, who works as a public high school principal, said the joint effort was not only a good way to bring the services together, but also a method to close the gap between the U.S. military and the Iraqi population.

"It's a way of showing the Iraqi citizens that we are here to help," he said.

The triage entailed setting up a temporary battalion aid station and dental clinic at a former officers' club in the village housing area. Soldiers from the 1st and 310th Military Intelligence Battalions provided security alongside elements of the U.S.-trained local police force and other local authorities.

From there, doctors and highly trained assistants evaluated and treated a wide range of patients and ailments.

"We treated everything from muscular aches, sprains and strains to colds, worms and parasites," said Maj. Tom Eccles, flight surgeon for the 1st MI Bn., Wiesbaden, Germany. "We also removed a corn from one foot, shrapnel from a non-healing wound, and treated an electrical wound."

Children were treated separately from the adults.

"I'm a pediatrician by training, so I was assigned all the kids," said Lt. Col. Richard Young, surgeon for the 118th Medical Bn., a National Guard unit from New Haven, Conn. "Most of the time, the 118th works for the troop medical clinic at LSA Anaconda, seeing approximately 100 patients a day and running an immunization clinic for another 50 or so. It was a little different this time."

Young, who is employed as the chief of pediatrics, St. Rayfield's Hospital, New Haven, said he and his colleagues did all they could for the children of Bakhar.

"We arranged follow-up exams for those children with more serious and complex issues," he said.

While the doctors fashioned remedies, the dentists were more than busy cleaning teeth, filling in cavities and instructing local Iraqis on the proper methods of oral hygiene. Toothbrushes and toothpaste were handed out like candy.

"Our main goal is to establish communication and try to win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people," said Col. Alka Cohen, pediatric dentist and commander of the 380th Medical Company, a Reserve unit based out of Memphis, Tenn. "We want to be able to improve the living conditions for them in terms of health care as well as humanitarian relief."

Both Civil Affairs and the Medical Companies are planning on continuing a long-term medical and dental outreach program to various communities in the area surrounding LSA Anaconda, said Cohen. The units are also involving local



Photo by Spc. Blanka Stratford  
**Sr. Airman Andy Roberts, medic for the 332nd Contingency Air Medical Facility (CASF), checks the pulse of a newborn baby during a medical triage, March 13.**

medical authorities in the program, as well providing referral for care of chronic health problems.

According to Maj. Steve Lancaster, senior Civil Affairs staff officer, 13th COSCOM, and officer-in-charge of the mission, the program ran into only a few minor setbacks, such as the need for more translators, a pre-screening criterion, and more power converters.

"The dental conditions of both adults and children were very bad, so there was no way to handle all of that," said Lancaster. "All in all, though, I think the mission went well. We were prepared and everything went as planned."

"The triage itself was successful," said Eccles, who oversaw the medical portion of the mission. "Programs such as this are crucial to the welfare of the people of Iraq, and the U.S. forces are doing the best that they can to provide that."

# NEWS

Page 3

March 29, 2004



## Graduating with honor

Story by Spc. Blanka Stratford  
*13th COSCOM Public Affairs*

The final step in the creation of an Iraqi security force for LSA Anaconda and its surrounding areas took place with a graduation ceremony at the base training grounds here, March 25.

The graduation of the 210th Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, Company D was the fourth and last of its kind for the 210th's 1st Battalion.

Created by the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) as a way to assist coalition forces with internal security operations, ICDC supports the main function of establishing a safe and secure Iraq. Many, to include Col. (P) James Chambers, commander of the 13th Corps Support Command at LSA Anaconda and



Photos by Spc. Blanka Stratford

***"You have worked hard to learn the skills that will make you effective guardians of a newly freed nation," said Col. (P) James Chambers, commander of the 13th Corps Support Command, addressing the soldiers of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, Company D, during their graduation ceremony at LSA Anaconda, March 25.***

guest speaker at the graduation ceremony, have hailed the Iraqi service members' accomplishments.

"You have worked hard to learn the skills that will make you effective guardians of a newly freed nation," said Chambers, addressing the Soldiers of ICDC Company D.

"Your job will not be easy," he said. "And there are still elements that seek to disrupt your work and to return Iraq to the dark days of the not-so-distant past. I urge you to stand resolute in your commitment to freedom."

Company D Soldiers will be joining more than 200 thousand of their fellow service members, including 77 thousand new police officers, 20 thousand border police, 73 thousand members of the Facility Protection Service, three thousand soldiers in the New Iraqi Army and the 30 thousand plus personnel in the entire

Iraqi Civil Defense Corps..

"Iraqi security forces now account for the majority of all forces in Iraq," said Chambers. "Working side by side with the coalition, Iraqi security forces have made this country a better place to live."

Since the conclusion of major combat operations, hundreds of schools, clinics, hospitals, bridges, power plants and other infrastructure have been reopened or refurbished. Health care spending has considerably increased, as has the Iraqi dinar in value. Security within the country improves every day.

"The success of units such as [Company D] has even allowed U.S. troops to rotate back to their home stations and the coalition to decrease the number of troops in the country," said Chambers. "Each of you should be proud of the commitment you have made and proud of your service to your country."



***ICDC Company D soldiers stand at parade rest during their graduation.***

# COMMENTARY

Page 4

March 29, 2004

## MONEY MATTERS: A MESSAGE FROM FINANCE

**T**he 126th Finance Battalion - Dragon Purser - is delighted to be providing finance support to units operating in and around LSA Anaconda. The Battalion Commander is LTC Lee Ransdell and the Command Sergeant Major is CSM Dennis Scott. Our home base is Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Our Battalion is located in building # 4139, across from the AAFES Exchange.

### PAY SUPPORT

- \* Check Cashing
- \* Casual Pay Processing
- \* Active Component - Military Pay Support
- \* Guard/Reserve Component-Military Pay Support
- \* Unit PAC (Personnel Action Center) Support
- \* Commercial Vendor Services
- \* Unit Pay Agent-Fund/Clear

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Our office hours are Monday-Saturday from 0900 until 1700. The first day following End-of-Month pay we are open for extended hours from 0730 until 1800. Our Unit Pay Agents may receive funds or clear their accounts on Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays from 0900 until 1700. Also, there is Unit Pay Agent Training on Friday's at 1500, located at our building. Our Commercial Vendor Service section provides support to local vendors on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturdays from 0900 until 1700.

### POLICIES

Currently, there are two CJTF-7 policies in effect that limit your ability to withdraw cash. The check-cashing limit is \$200 a week and the casual pay limit is \$350 a month.

### CONTACTS

If you need assistance in any aforementioned area, please feel free to contact one of our section supervisors:

- \* Capt. Andrew Meetze, detachment commander; unit pay agent OIC
- \* Sgt. First-Class Lorraine Goddard, detachment sergeant.
- \* Capt. Charles Goettler, deputy disbursing officer.
- \* Staff Sgt. (P) Deshazor, check/casual pay processing NCOIC
- \* Staff Sgt. Nichole Tavares-Gibbs, chief military pay and exam
- \* Sgt. Jose Urena, customer service NCOIC
- \* Sgt. Sara Belden, unit PAC NCOIC (active component)
- \* Sgt. Ehren Murrow, unit PAC NCOIC (Guard/Reserve component)
- \* Capt. Andrew Meetze, commercial vendor services OIC
- \* Staff Sgt. (P) Michael Blagmon, commercial vendor services NCOIC

### ENTITLEMENTS

There are two new military pay entitlements being offered for soldiers serving in combat areas. The first is for soldiers serving more than 365 days ("Boots On the Ground") in a combat zone and the second is for soldiers performing demolition duty with live explosives, while serving as combat engineers. All Active and Guard/Reserve component soldiers are entitled to these payments.

### HDP-T/AIP

The Army has issued a message to authorize Hazardous Duty Pay-Tempo (HDP-T) and Assignment Incentive Pay (AIP) authorization for certain Army units serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

All soldiers must be assigned or attached to one of the following units to be eligible for HDP-T or AIP option one or two:

302nd MI BN, 19th CSC, 613th MCT, 626th MCT, 71st CSSB, 627th MCT, 181st Trans BN-HHC, F/106 AVN (RC), 3-158th AVN BN, B/7-159 AVN, A/5-159 AVN (RC), HHC/7-159 AVN

This policy became effective 20 January 2004 and will terminate on 1 June 2004 or the date the eligible soldier leaves a designated area.

A soldier must be either deployed for twelve consecutive months or twelve months in a fifteen-month period. The monthly entitlement for HDP-T is \$200. This entitlement is in addition to the current monthly Hardship Duty Pay-Location entitlement of \$100.

The \$200 monthly entitlement continues to be paid each additional month a soldier remains beyond their original redeployment date of 365 days.

The AIP entitlement is different than the HDP-T. A soldier must choose one of two options. The first is \$800 a month and the second is a stabilization tour at your home station equal to the time you spent deployed. Only active duty soldiers are eligible for option number two. The entitlements are paid on a monthly basis, even if a soldier only spends one day on the ground in that theatre.

Soldiers must complete a DA 4187 (Personnel Action Form) with their respective unit S-1 and submit to their servicing finance office.

### DEMOLITION DUTY PAY

The Army has issued a message to authorize Demolition Duty Incentive Pay effective 9 February 2004. Soldiers serving as combat engineers whose primary duty involves demolition of explosives are entitled to demolition duty incentive pay of \$150 a month.

Combat engineers must be placed on competent orders, requiring the performance of demolition duty. A soldier is entitled to this each month they perform demolition duty involving live explosives.

Soldiers must complete a DA 4187 (Personnel Action Form) with their respective unit S-1 and submit to their servicing finance office.

*Information compiled by 126th FB*

# LIFESTYLES

Page 5

March 29, 2004

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

***How are you staying fit while you are here?***



**Spc. Kyla McAuliffe**  
HHC, 724<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bn.

*"I workout five days a week. I do weight training in the gym with my section and I also go to the pool to swim laps."*



**Spc. Lloyd Jones**  
126<sup>th</sup> Finance Battalion

*"I eat right and exercise regularly. I do a lot of physical training in the morning as well as running around a lot during the day."*



**Staff Sgt. Matt Eddings**  
561 HRT

*"I do physical training four times a week. I've lost 50 pounds since I've been here in the last year. I feel good."*



**Staff Sgt. Christopher Wright**  
HHC, 13<sup>th</sup> COSCOM

*"I workout in the gym for an hour every morning and I run in the afternoon or go to the gym by dining facility #2 to workout."*



**Spc. Prosenjeet Basu**  
71<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Company

*"I do physical training with my company five days a week."*

**MARCH 31ST AND APRIL 1ST  
AT 1900  
IN THE THEATER**

**PRC-77**

**SOUTHWEST ASIA  
TOUR**

Coming to OSA Area on April  
For more info go to:  
**WWW.PRC77.COM**

PRESENTED BY  
**AFE**  
ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT

PRC-77 has previously appeared with  
Godsmack and Creed.



**2 Lt. Clark Burke**  
513 MCT

*"I go to the gym almost every day and I try to run a couple times a week."*

# LIFESTYLES

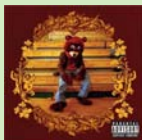
Page 6

March 29, 2004

## Billboard Top 20 Albums



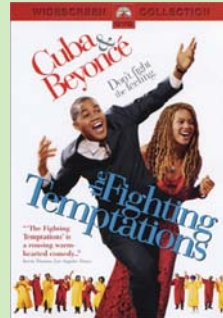
1. Norah Jones, **Feels Like Home**
2. Cassidy, **Split Personality**
3. Evanescence, **Fallen**
4. Jessica Simpson, **In the Skin**
5. Godsmack, **The Other Side**
6. Kanye West, **The College Dropout**
7. Kenny Chesney, **When The Sun Goes Down**
8. Various Artists, **Bad Boy's 10th Anniversary...**
9. Maroon5, **Songs About Jane**
10. Josh Groban, **Closer**
11. Sheryl Crow, **Best Of Sheryl Crow**
12. Twista, **Kamikaze**
13. OutKast, **Speakerboxxx/The Love Below**
14. Eamon, **I Don't Want You Back**
15. Chingy, **Jackpot**
16. Britney Spears, **In The Zone**
17. AJay-Z, **The Black Album**
18. Nickelback, **The Long Road**
19. Alicia Keys, **The Diary Of Alicia Keys**
20. Ludacris, **Chicken\*N\*Beer**



## MOVIE REVIEW

By **Sgt. Ann Venturato**  
(films found at AAFES)

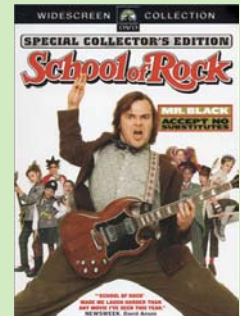
### The Fighting Temptations



Cuba Gooding Jr. plays a big city advertiser, and Beyonce Knowles plays a musically talented single mother. In order to inherit from his grandmother, Gooding must take the local church choir to the state choral competition. It's a romantic comedy that will touch the hearts of all who see it.

### School of Rock

The teachings of rock and roll have never been more hilarious. Jack Black plays a down and out musician who in a desperate need for money, poses as a substitute teacher and finds that his class is musically gifted. This movie goes to the head of the class.



### U-571



Matthew McConaughey makes a big splash in this movie as a naval executive officer who has been turned down for captain of his own submarine. During a top-secret mission to recover a German decoder, he finds himself the captain of a broken down Russian submarine in enemy waters. This movie is action packed until the very end.

# SPORTS

## NHL Conference Standings

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic	Last 10
<a href="#">Flyers</a>	6-2-2-0
<a href="#">Devils</a>	5-3-1-1
<a href="#">Islanders</a>	5-4-0-1
<a href="#">Rangers</a>	2-5-0-3
<a href="#">Penguins</a>	8-1-1-0

Northeast	Last 10
<a href="#">Maple Leafs</a>	5-5-0-0
<a href="#">Senators</a>	4-5-0-1
<a href="#">Bruins</a>	7-2-1-0
<a href="#">Canadiens</a>	6-2-1-1
<a href="#">Sabres</a>	5-2-0-3

Southeast	Last 10
<a href="#">Lightning</a>	5-4-1-0
<a href="#">Panthers</a>	4-5-0-1
<a href="#">Thrashers</a>	4-2-2-2
<a href="#">Hurricanes</a>	5-3-0-2
<a href="#">Capitals</a>	2-7-1-0

### Western Conference

Central	Last 10
<a href="#">Red Wings</a>	5-3-2-0
<a href="#">Blues</a>	5-2-3-0
<a href="#">Predators</a>	2-4-3-1
<a href="#">Blue Jackets</a>	2-8-0-0
<a href="#">Blackhawks</a>	2-5-2-1

Northwest	Last 10
<a href="#">Avalanche</a>	5-4-1-0
<a href="#">Canucks</a>	3-4-2-1
<a href="#">Flames</a>	6-2-2-0
<a href="#">Wild</a>	4-2-3-1
<a href="#">Oilers</a>	6-0-1-3

Pacific	Last 10
<a href="#">Sharks</a>	5-4-1-0
<a href="#">Stars</a>	6-2-2-0
<a href="#">Kings</a>	3-7-0-0
<a href="#">Coyotes</a>	1-5-3-1
<a href="#">Mighty Ducks</a>	4-5-1-0

## NBA Conference Standings

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic	Streak
<a href="#">Nets</a>	Won 1
<a href="#">Knicks</a>	Lost 1
<a href="#">Celtics</a>	Lost 2
<a href="#">76ers</a>	Won 2
<a href="#">Heat</a>	Won 6
<a href="#">Wizards</a>	Lost 2
<a href="#">Magic</a>	Lost 6

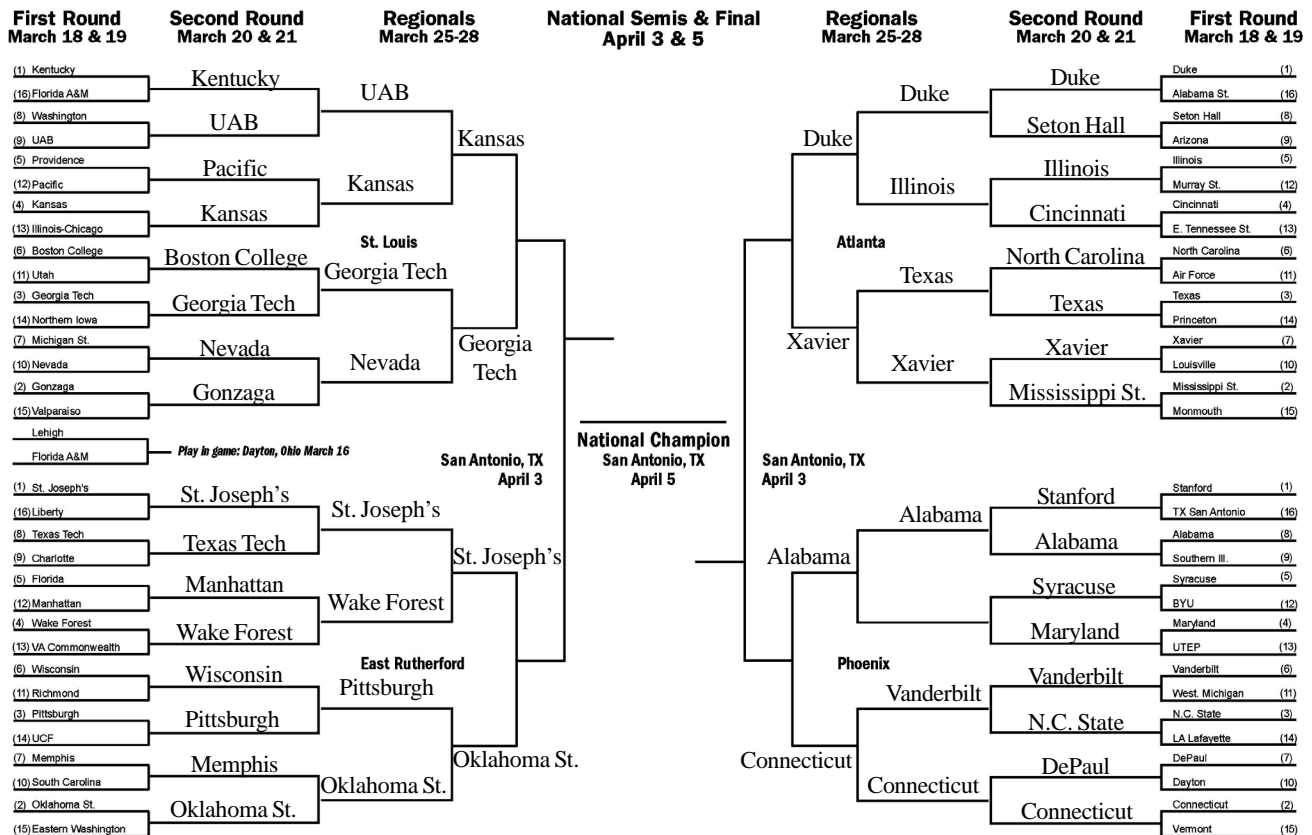
Central	Streak
<a href="#">Pacers</a>	Won 2
<a href="#">Pistons</a>	Lost 1
<a href="#">Hornets</a>	Won 1
<a href="#">Bucks</a>	Lost 1
<a href="#">Raptors</a>	Lost 2
<a href="#">Cavaliers</a>	Lost 3
<a href="#">Hawks</a>	Lost 3
<a href="#">Bulls</a>	Lost 2

### Western Conference

Midwest	Streak
<a href="#">Timberwolves</a>	Lost 1
<a href="#">Spurs</a>	Lost 1
<a href="#">Mavericks</a>	Lost 2
<a href="#">Grizzlies</a>	Won 3
<a href="#">Rockets</a>	Won 2
<a href="#">Nuggets</a>	Won 2
<a href="#">Jazz</a>	Lost 1

Pacific	Streak
<a href="#">Kings</a>	Lost 2
<a href="#">Lakers</a>	Won 6
<a href="#">SuperSonics</a>	Won 6
<a href="#">Trail Blazers</a>	Won 1
<a href="#">Warriors</a>	Won 5
<a href="#">Clippers</a>	Lost 5
<a href="#">Suns</a>	Lost 1

## NCAA Men's Basketball: 2004 Tournament Regional Semifinals



# PHOTOS

Page 8

March 29, 2004



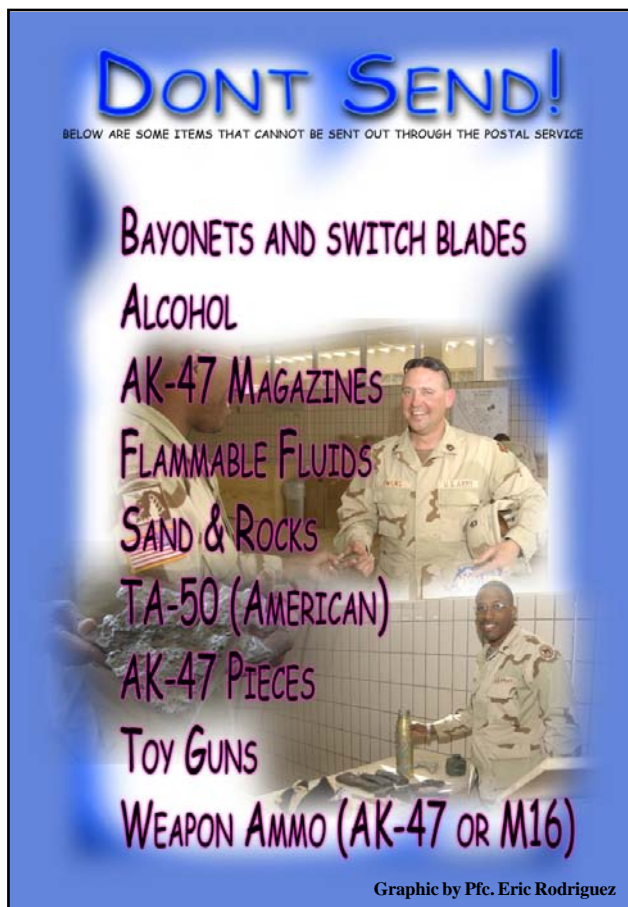
Photo by Spc. Blanka Stratford

**Lt. Col. James Honey, dentist for the 257th Medical Company (Dental Service), examines the teeth of an Iraqi man during a medical mission coordinated by seven combined Army and Air Force units at the Iraqi village of Bakhar, March 13.**



Photo by Sgt. Ann Venturato

**13th Corps Support Command Soldiers practice their pistol marksmanship at the LSA Anaconda firing range, March 12.**



Graphic by Pfc. Eric Rodriguez

## Pvt. Murphy's Law

